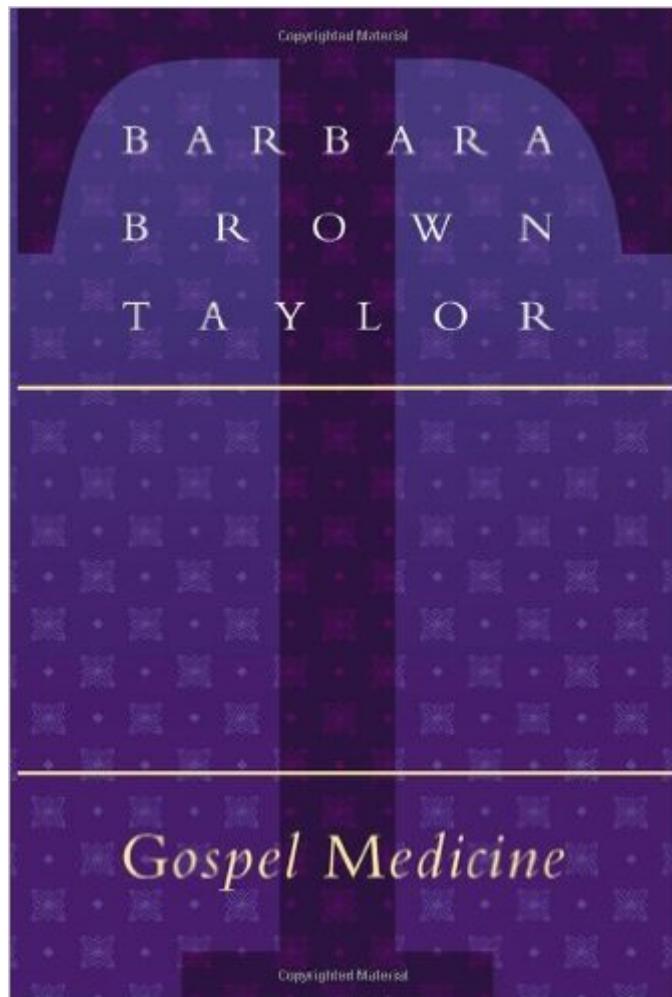


The book was found

# Gospel Medicine



## **Synopsis**

Gospel medicine is Barbara Taylor's metaphor for the healing power of God seen in the active and ongoing restoration of this broken world. In this new collection of sermons she practices the old-fashioned art of gospel home remedies like a true evangelist, summoning with piercing clarity and wit the Old and New Testament stories that have the power to mend our spirits, strengthen our weaknesses, and restore us to wholeness. Scripture comes to life in the contemporary people and places of which Taylor speaks. Georgia apple-growers become God's sharecroppers of the gospel parable; through Mary's embracing of her role as God-bearer we are dared to take risks in our own discipleship; in Jonah's angry stand-off with God we see reflections of our own struggles with a God who is more forgiving than we want him to be; with tender awe after years of waiting Sarah wipes her hands on her apron and goes to tell Abraham she is to bear a child. Through the stories of Scripture, Taylor addresses with moving simplicity the contemporary wounds of anger, abandonment, fear of judgment, and a longing for home, healing, and mercy.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

To Be The Best is the third book in the Emma Harte saga. This book focuses on the grandchildren of the late Emma Harte. The grandchildren are all grown up and trying to live their lives the best way possible to please the memory of their beloved grandmother Emma. This book dedicates time to each of the more prominent grandchildren: Paula, Phillip, Emily, Alexander, Anthony, and Jonathan. This book doesn't have much about Emma's children in it except for her daughter Daisy. I found this

book very interesting and was glad I didn't pass it by due to the other two reviews that were written about it. This book does jump from place to place but that is because Emma's grandchildren live in different places and travel because of their careers. Some of the past is relived but this is so someone who hasn't read the two previous books will understand a little bit better what is going on and why it is happening. There is sadness in this book but life isn't always happy and this book is written to reflect the lives in a most true (if somewhat exaggerated) sense. This book was a wonderful read for anyone that has read the two previous books in the trilogy. It updates you on the lives of the Harters, O'Neill's, and Kallinski's. I think this was an easy book to read and was well written. It has all the characters I had grown to like and some I'd grown to dislike from the earlier books and also some new characters to keep the book fresh and interesting. I would definitely recommend this book to anyone who has read *A Woman of Substance* and *Hold the Dream*. I would suggest that anyone wanting to read *To Be The Best* read the other books first to get a feeling for the characters and their lives. This is most definitely a five star read!

Collections of sermons often are wooden and without the life they may enjoy as part of the liturgy. However, Barbara Brown Taylor's *GOSPEL MEDICINE* is a group of readable meditations that seem to come to life in front of you. Examples from everyday life never seem trite or forced and even when one thinks there's nothing new to be said about a Scripture passage, she presents a new twist, often one that can be immediately incorporated into daily living. Her language is always alive and present, very fresh without being cloying. A refreshing change from so many contemporary mediations on scripture texts.

It could have been a good 100 pages shorter. I am noticing most of her books are overly descriptive and in a SERIES we do not need to keep having the same room described in multiple page descriptions every book.

I have to admit that when I started the book it did not capture my interest. Yet you need to become familiar with the characters in the book. It's mainly about Paula and Shane, Maddy and Phillip, Anthony and Sara, Alexander as well as Paula's cousin Jonathan and his wife Arabella., and more. Everything appears blissful at the beginning. Paula inherited Harte's enterprise, and she has a great team that works for her. Then, when we get familiar with the characters things take a turn, some of the things that will happen will have you in tears and suspense. We discover the true story of what happened to Anthony's first wife, we learn of Alexander's fatal illness, then the story of Maddy who

is happily married and pregnant and takes an unexpected turn, Shane loses his hotel due to a fire, Jonathan is out to take Harte's away from Paula. Very good read, recommend reading the book to the end.

I have read other books in the series, and did not think this one was as good...too many characters were killed off! I do like the way she balances all the characters...given that this is a series about a huge family with a lot of history and relations, it can be difficult to keep them all straight, but the author does give hints so you know which character is which as you read, which really helps! I do recommend this book, and the series as well. Good reads!

This seems to be the usual Bradford story. In other words, if you've read one then you'll recognize what's going on in this one. The story starts slow, but it does pick up. It's a nice book to read at night when you're trying to fall asleep. It won't keep you awake, and you can easily pick it back up the next night. I would recommend reading the Emma Harte series in order. That will help a great deal.

I read the first book so long ago, and missed the second. I wondered if I would feel lost. This novel was fun to get wrapped up in; I didn't want it to end and hope to get to the next in the series before too long. I appreciate living vicariously through the characters and their travels to places I would love to go and experience the time periods presented.

Although I enjoyed this book, it was not as good as Bradford's original book on Emma Harte. It spent too much time giving the history and not enough time on the plot. Still, it was a good read and I would choose to read it again.

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